

REMARKS

The present application is directed to a coin sorting apparatus and contains 33 claims. Claims 1-20 have all been indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and, with respect to dependent Claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-20 to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Additionally, grammatical errors were noted in Claims 21, 22 and Claim 30. By the present Amendment, the grammatical errors and all of the rejections under §112 are believed to have been cured. Accordingly, Claims 1-20 should be in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims, nos. 21-33 were rejected under §§102(b) or 103 primarily in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,371,845 ("Ishida"). Rejected Claims 21-30 have been amended and now define patentable subject matter over the art of record. Independent Claims 1 and 23 each recite a sensing means for detecting if the coin receiving tube is positioned on a location for appropriately receiving the coins by sensing the displacement of the receiving container. Ishida does not teach or suggest a means for detecting whether or not the coin receiving tube is so positioned by sensing a displacement of the receiving container. Claims 22 and 24-30 are dependent therefrom and thus similarly distinguish the cited primary reference. With respect to method Claim 31, Ishida does not teach or suggest the step of operating again the coin sorting means when the coin receiving means is displaced to a predetermined location. Claims 32 and 33 are dependent from Claim 31 and thus similarly distinguish the cited art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now pending in the application define patentable subject matter over the cited art and should therefore be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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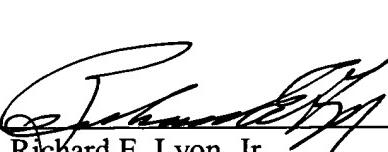
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